

FISCAL NOTE

HB 3074 - SB 3230

February 26, 2004

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires that any voting system purchased on or after July 1, 2004, which does not require a voter to directly mark on the ballot, shall produce, at the time the voter casts such voter's ballot, a paper version of the ballot cast. Such paper version shall not be provided to the voter but shall be retained by the county election commission for use during any recounts, contests, or random samplings for accuracy.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase Local Govt. Expenditures - Not Significant

Estimate assumes that:

- Currently under federal mandate, pursuant to the Help America Vote Act, Tennessee must replace all punchcard and lever machines and optical scan central base voting systems by July 1, 2006.
- Federal law also requires every voting system to have an audit capacity. Voting systems which do not have this feature but meet the other federal requirements will need to be updated.
- In order to meet these federal requirements, Tennessee has been budgeted with federal funds to purchase new voting systems and upgrades for the current voting systems.
- The office of the Coordinator of Election is currently waiting for the receipt of federal funds and is in the process of determining which machines will best meet the federal requirements.
- Therefore, it is assumed that any voting machine purchased after July 1, 2004, will be purchased with federal funds and any cost to local governments associated with the purchase of such voting systems will be not significant.

For information purposes, a precinct-based optical scan machine would cost approximately \$6,000 per machine. A DRE (touch screen voting machine) would cost approximately \$4,500 per machine.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James W. White, Executive Director